

Amendments to the specification

Please replace the paragraph on page 9, lines 8-13, with the replacement paragraph below:

Before data collection begins, the bedside data system 102 first delivers a "login" screen that requires the operator to identify himself or herself by either manually entering an employee ID number or by employing the barcode scanner to enter a barcode from the user's identification card or badge. The submitted user's ID is then validated based on the employee records in the personnel database 123 maintained by the HIS 109. The entry of a password may be required for additional security against unauthorized use.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 9, line 28 and extending to page 10, line 3 with the replacement paragraph below:

At the beginning of each session, the bedside data system requires the identification of the patient whose data is to be collected. Again, the patient's name or identification code can be entered manually, or by scanning a barcode on the patient's wrist bracelet. The entered name or patient ID code is then validated against patient information in the HIS and a brief description of the patient will be displayed on the screen for the operator to verify and ensure that the ID was correct. The patient identification can be entered or altered by pressing the "~~Patient ID~~" "Patient Info" button seen at 211 in Fig. 2.

Please replace the paragraph on page 11, lines 27-30, with the replacement paragraph below:

The operator may also press the "Display" button seen at 203 in Fig. 2 to view a display of the accumulated data for the currently selected patient as stored in the database 117 seen in ~~Fig. 2~~ Fig. 1. The display option contains two screens: the trend graph illustrated in Fig. 4 and the I/O table illustrated in Fig. 5.

Please replace the paragraph on page 12, lines 12-17, with the replacement paragraph below

By pressing the button marked "Input/Output" seen at 412, the operator may view an input /output table as illustrated in Fig. 5 for the same time period as selected on the graph of Fig. 4. All intakes and outputs are shown on the table, with corresponding patient weight readings and totals. Again, a four-button group as seen at 410 allows the user to scroll the table through time using the same increments as on the graph, and pressing button marked "Trend Graph" at 414 at 501 restores the trend view of Fig. 4.